

The Stikeen River Journal

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF WRANGEL, SOUTHEASTERN ALASKA, AND THE ALL-CANADIAN ROUTE TO THE YUKON.

VOL. 2, NO. 16.

FORT WRANGEL, ALASKA, SATURDAY, April 22, 1899.

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STIKEEN RIVER JOURNAL

A Boom for Wrangel

A well known resident of Wrangel William G. Thomas, a pioneer of Alaska, formerly Deputy United States Marshall here and later a customs official, is the promoter of an expedition being fitted out for the purpose of prospecting a heretofore unexplored section of the great North West Territory. This expedition will start from Wrangel and will be composed of several experienced and practical miners, who, in the early days of the Cassiar gold mining excitement, were among the fortunates who reaped a rich reward. The objective section of the country is that portion lying west of the Rocky Mountains and at the extreme headwaters of the Yukon and its eastern tributaries, and from whence it is believed the gold found in the Klondike and other streams originally came.

The theory is based on the belief that the Rocky Mountains are the fountain head of the gold run, or, in other words, contain the mother lode, and from which, by the action of the elements of ages past, has scattered the gold on both sides of the range through the United States, British North America and Mexico.

The rich deposits found along the Klondike river and its tributaries lead to the belief that the mother lode is somewhere in the Rocky Mountains in the vicinity of the headwaters of the now famous Klondike, a section of country which has not yet been prospected, owing to its being almost impenetrable from the Klondike.

This expedition will go to Dease lake which lies about 250 miles northeast of Wrangel, in British Columbia, and from there will proceed in a northeasterly direction over a comparatively open country until the foothills of the Rocky Mountains are reached. Then the course will be along the west side of the range prospecting all the streams gulches and benches to a point east and north of the Klondike, thus taking in all the streams which form the headwaters of the Yukon, and down the channels of which gold has been carried and deposited from time immemorial.

In an interview Mr. Thomas said: In the early days of the Cassiar excitement two men penetrated a portion of the country to be prospected by this expedition, but owing to the running out of supplies and the sickness of one of them, they were compelled to return to Wrangel. They met with good success, bringing out several dollars in dust, most of which was coarse gold and bore but little indications of having been carried any great distance by water, as it was rough and contained more or less quartz. One of these men died at Wrangel, while the other left for the East, intending to return, but he has never made his appearance, it is surmised that he either abandoned the project or met with a similar fate to his partner.

The reports they gave of the country as related by Mr. Thomas, were most encouraging, and since that time he has never known of any one going into that section of the country, although several expeditions have been planned. Owing to the uncertainties and the hardships which would have to be encountered they were abandoned.

Now that the richness of the Klondike has been proven and in the firm belief that its gold came from the Rocky Mountains, the present expedition which is being organized, will be a reality, and it is the intention to make the start as soon as the season is sufficiently opened. It is the opinion of the promoters that they will strike a new gold field equally as rich or richer than the Klondike, and thereby open up a new field for the adventurous and hardy miner.

GENERAL NEWS.

A Synopsis of Happenings in the Outside World as Gleaned from Exchanges.

The Hon. Stephen Johnson Field, late member of the Supreme Court of the United States, died April 9th, at home on East Capitol Hill, Washington City, from the immediate effect of a severe cold which brought on serious kidney troubles and which the ex-jurist was unable to stand by reason of advanced years, having been 82 on November 4th, 1898.

The complete restoration of peace between the United States and Spain was affected at Washington City April 11. The ceremony of exchanging ratifications occurred at the Executive Mansion at 2:30, when the President handed to M. Cambon, the French Ambassador, the American copies of the treaty and the Ambassador in return gave to the President the Spanish copy of the treaty, properly attested by Queen Regent and Premier of Spain.

Capt. W. R. Abercrombie, in command of the government relief expedition the Copper river, left Seattle on April 13th, on board the steamer Excelsior bound for Valdez.

A miner has reached Dyea who claims to be the survivor of a party of three, the others of which were murdered by Chilcat Indians near the village of Klukwan. They were cutting their initials on a big totem pole when they were surprised by a big party of Indians, some of whom shot down his two companions. He ran to the brush and escaped. The dead miners were Sidney Vance, an Englishman, and Charles Erickson, a Swede.

The American forces in the Philippines are steadily pushing forward against the insurgents, although the latter if they pursue their present policy of avoiding a fight, may be able to prolong the insurrection for many months. Sooner or later American troops will have driven the last rebel to sue for mercy or leave the Islands. Once peace is restored the natives will see the benefits to be derived under American rule and become a very law abiding people.

E. Hofstad.

Mr. E. Hofstad, for many years connected with the customs service, left on the last Cottage City for Sitka to look after his valuable mining interests. It is possible that Mr. Hofstad may find other interests require so much of his time that he will be compelled to resign his position in the customs department which would be a severe blow to the honest administration of affairs in that branch of the government service. Mr. Hofstad has been in the government employ for the last fifteen years, and although frequent efforts have been made by dishonest partisan wire workers to have him removed, they have always come to naught for the very good reason that he has always been one of the few persons in the customs service whose every act was free from even the appearance of dishonesty. Mr. Hofstad enjoys the enviable position of having every good citizen his friend, and all join in wishing him even greater success in his future mining ventures than he has already attained through his connection with the great Pandy Basin back of Sitka.

Regular Church Services—Presbyterian Church.

Services for Natives, 11 a. m., and 4 p. m. Sunday and 4 p. m. Wednesday.

Sunday school, 2:30 p. m.

Christian Endeavor, 7 p. m.

Song service 8 p. m.

Prayer meeting, Friday, 8 p. m.

All are cordially invited. Seats free.

Geo. W. Bloomhardt.

Geo. W. Bloomhardt has sold out his interest in the Wrangel Drug Co. to Dr. O. W. Stanton, and will retire from Wrangel. In losing Mr. Bloomhardt the people lose a man who has constantly been an indefatigable worker for this city. He has been treasurer of the Chamber of Commerce from its inception and a prominent member of the Bachelor's Club. Scarcely any movement having for its object the betterment of our condition has been inaugurated without his being foremost in the good work. He has spent his money liberally and freely whenever occasion seemed to require it; and now, that he is about to depart, the citizens of Wrangel begin to realize their great loss. Like all others in public life, or taking part in the affairs of the community Mr. Bloomhardt has his enemies, but our best citizens are invariably his staunch supporters and friends.

Mr. Bloomhardt expects to leave on the Cottage City for Puget Sound where his different interests will engage his attention. He will carry with him, to his new field, the best wishes of a host of friends in Wrangel and other parts of Alaska.

Sir Arthur Curtis Found.

News comes from the Hudson Bay posts on the Ashcroft trail to the Stikeen river, to the effect that Indians in the employ of the Hudson Bay Company have a clew which will probably lead to the recovery of the body of Sir Arthur Curtis, the young English Baronet, who is supposed to have suicided because of the difficulties of the terrible Ashcroft trail.

The body is said to be in the possession of Indians who have carefully buried it and expect to get a big ransom when the present search instituted by his English relatives have been abandoned. The Hudson Bay Indians hope to secure the body by force and get the offered reward for themselves.

The story of Sir Arthur Curtis' death is a sad one. He had been ranching at Cosham as many another wild young Englishman of blue blood has done. He got the Klondike fever and with a party of eight started over the Ashcroft trail. They had an elaborate outfit and for a few hundred miles all went well.

Their troubles began before they reached Mud river. They crossed that stream on June 9th last year. The next morning Sir Arthur seemed moody. All the horses had been stampeded during the night and were nowhere to be found. He loaded his revolver in the tent, lit his pipe and walked into the woods, after saying goodby to Rodriguez Pocock, whose turn it was to guard camp. Sir Arthur never returned.

There are several theories regarding his death. He might have fallen into one of the sluggish branches of Mud river and lost his life. He might have been killed by Indians. He might, in a fit of despondency, have taken his own life. The latter theory is most generally believed. The Indians soon gave evidence that they were holding the body for ransom and were offered \$1,000 for it. They demanded \$5,000, and there was every prospect that they would not give up the body on payment of that amount. There has been no news from the Mud river country for some time. This news was brought by Hudson Bay Company carriers who manage to travel all over that great North land in spite of the season.

When you want to buy anything patronize the merchants who advertise in the Journal. As a rule you will find that the men who help support the local paper are live, progressive and wide-awake and accomadating to their customers.

THE STIKEEN RIVER JOURNAL

FORT WRANGEL, ALASKA.

J. R. McKEAND.

Published every Saturday at the McKinnon block, Front street, Wrangel, Alaska.

TERMS IN ADVANCE:

One Year	\$3.00
Six Months	1.50
Three Months	.75
Single Copies	.10

Foreign Postage must be Prepaid.

RATES OF ADVERTISING:

One Inch, by the Month	\$2.00
Quarter Column	.675
Half	1.25
Full	18.00

COMMERCIAL AND LEGAL NOTICES:

Ten cents per line for first insertion, nonpareil measure, and four cents for each insertion after.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS:

Twelve lines and under, per month	\$2.00
Twelve lines and under, first insertion	\$1.00

Each subsequent insertion .50

LOCAL AND SPECIAL NOTICES:

Ten cents per line for first insertion, five cents per line for each additional insertion.

Black line locals from 50 cents to \$1 per line. No local to be less than \$1 unless by special arrangement.

The number of lines to be reckoned by the space occupied, measured by a scale of solid nonpareil. (12 lines make one inch).

Advertisements without written instructions will be inserted until forbidden, and charged accordingly.

Orders for discontinuing advertisements must be delivered at the office the morning previous to publication.

All advertisements from non-resident persons or strangers, must be paid for in advance, or a sufficient deposit made to secure the office against loss.

Entered at the Postoffice at Fort Wrangel, Alaska, as second-class mail matter.

SATURDAY, APRIL 22 1899.

THE latest news from Apia would indicate that Emperor William of Germany has a representative there whom it would pay to have sent to Berlin to be spanked.

PRESIDENT McKinley is making preparations for a trip to the Pacific Coast. Why not have him continue the trip to Alaska? History does not record a single instance where a President of the United States has visited this large part of Uncle Sam's possessions.

IN another column we publish an interview with Mr. W. G. Thomas of Wrangel, which is of great interest to this city. The scheme as proposed seems very feasible, and we hope it will meet with success. Not only that we may congratulate Mr. Thomas on his success; but if the country to which he is going proves to be equal to expectations it will mean a big thing for Wrangel.

As yet no action has been taken looking to the spring cleaning that our streets badly need. Every good housewife will be busy in the spring house cleaning, but their duty does not extend beyond their home. The male portion of our inhabitants should take care of the rest. During the warm days this week a disagreeable odor was distinctly noticed coming from portions of Front street, and unless steps are taken at once to clean up the refuse which has been dumped in pieces during the past winter, this city will be visited by an epidemic of sickness. The Chamber of Commerce should act in the matter at once. Delay is dangerous!

SOME malicious person in Wrangel has taken it upon himself to inform the Treasury Department at Washington that U. S. troops at this place are not only not a necessity, but that their presence here is opposed by all the merchants and business men. We could make a close guess as to the origin of this falsehood from the fact that the person making the statement has business with the Treasury Department, and also from the fact that only an ignorant would bring to the attention of

the Secretary of the Treasury a matter which is wholly within the jurisdiction of the Secretary of War. The troops now stationed at Wrangel are far above the average in intelligence and soldierly conduct, and are always under the control of an able and efficient commanding officer. They are a necessity and a benefit to Wrangel; and if the Secretary of War wishes to cater to the wishes of the business men of Wrangel, he will dispatch an entire regiment to this place.

THE latest advices from below indicate that a great many members of Congress will visit Alaska during the coming summer. Members of both legislative bodies in Washington have expressed a desire to visit the most northern of Uncle Sam's Possessions, and in order that their visit may be productive of good, Governor Brady has arranged to accompany from the sound such of the members as choose to come. For fear however that this arrangement would simply be a case of "The blind leading the blind," it would be well for the citizens of Alaska to take the matter in hand and appoint a committee to act as guide for the distinguished Senators and Congressmen who come to our shore. Alaska has been cursed with as poor legislation as was ever forced on an intelligent and law abiding community, and the thing to do is for the various Chambers of Commerce to appoint representatives to confer with each other and arrange to entertain these visitors, at the same time pointing out to them our various needs. A member of Congress who knows the needs of Alaska can do more in one hour for Alaska than the most powerful lobby that Juneau and Skagway can maintain. This is a matter that the Wrangel Chamber of Commerce should take up at once. There is prestige in taking the initiative.

CONTINUED good reports are daily reaching our ears relative to rich finds along the coast of South eastern Alaska. One day it is in Ketchikan; the next Helm Bay; then it is the Copper Mountain and Prince of Wales Island. Every steamer brings some prospector who packs his pick and shovel and goes into the hills to work. This is a vast improvement on the general run of arrivals of a year ago. Then men came here with the avowed intention of looking for mineral. They possibly expected to be able to hire a guide for a few dollars who would take them to a forest where gold grows on bushes waiting to be knocked off with a club. Failing in this they became disgusted and discouraged, and after spending a little money and eating up their grub, they returned to former occupations in a more civilized community. To be a successful prospector a man must have nerve and endurance, and be willing to work and toil day in and day out without knowing such a word as fail. It is the later class of men that are coming in to replace the worthless trash that is going away.

The newcomers are prospectors of which any mining community has reason to be proud. They will succeed where success is possible, and if they fail there will be no need of others covering the ground they covered. They are not salaried hirelings of eastern syndicates with more money than brains. They will not remain idle for months as others have done, and then say the country is a failure. They will make an honest effort and no doubt the country will be

better for their coming here. We predict that before another winter closes on this much abused country wonderfully rich claims will have been developed sufficiently to attract the attention of the world.

Business Men.

The Journal has all facilities for turning out work at short notice. Try us for your next "rush" order in bill heads, envelopes, or any kind of office stationery. Low prices, high satisfaction and prompt delivery make a strong trio.

C. H. Sundmacher,**Lawyer.**

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THE NATURAL GATE.

To the Great Inland Empire of
Omenica, Cassiar and
Klondike.

The location of the flag pole on the Government plaza is found to be latitude 56 degrees, 28 minutes, and 24.97 seconds, north; longitude, 132 degrees, 23 minutes, and 14.30 seconds west from Greenwich.

This gives Wrangell about the same latitude as Glasgow, Edinburgh, and Copenhagen.

The town is situated on the north end of Wrangell Island, a strip of land 32 miles long with an average width of 8 miles. The island is mountainous, the highest elevation being 3,000 feet above sea level.

The mountains are covered with thick forests of spruce, hemlock and yellow cedar. The forests are almost impenetrable by reason of the thick growth of trees, interspersed with a villainous vegetable growth called the "Devils Club," which is neither a bush nor a tree. Its spines greatly resemble those of the Mexican caactus.

THE HARBOR.

Is a magnificent body of water, nearly circular in form, and about fifteen miles in diameter, protected on all sides by tall snow-capped mountains.

The harbor has four entrances, but only one, the Stikine strait, is deep enough for the largest vessels to enter at the lowest low waters. Ordinary sea-going vessels can enter through the other channels at any time. Once inside of Etolin Bay, the local name of the harbor, vessels are safe from every wind and storm, and have good anchorage.

THE CITY.

The city was built originally around and along the shores of Etolin bay. The main thoroughfare, known as Front street, extends along the water front. At present it is unimproved, except in the matter of sidewalks, and only about 300 feet is passable for a wagon.

The houses are all of wood, with many good residences, quite a number being of two stories. The buildings occupied by stores and shops are mostly one story frames, but several, like the McKinnon block, have two stories. There are several hotels, among which is the large three story Fort Wrangell hotel, which would be an ornament to any town.

THE PLAZA.

The government plaza is just to the north of Etolin bay, and is the historical part of the town. On the east side is the large two story court house. On the west is the custom house. On the north side is the old barracks building and the old block house, or fort later used as a post office, and at present as the U. S. jail. The buildings are said to have been erected in the year 1868 one year after the American occupation. There was formally a stockade surrounding the government reserve, but only a few stumps now remain.

The Klinket Indians have some remarkably good houses, several having two stories and are well constructed.

HISTORY.

The place is called after General Wrangell, an official of the Russian government. The orthography has been changed by Americans to Wrangell. The official name of the post is "Fort Wrangell." The port bears the name of "Port of Wrangell." The old Indian town of Wrangell, now deserted, is 20 miles south of the present town, on the same island. The Klinket Indians living there, moved here about 1798, and nothing is left at Old Wrangell but a few decayed log houses and totem poles.

The Russian government maintained a post here for many years. A few traces of their occupation remain on the south point of Etolin bay. In 1867 at the time of the American purchase, an American army force was stationed here, and about that time a custom house was established.

The first American settlers began to come in about 1878. For many years it was an almost exclusive Indian town. In 1874, the town had a boom from the Cassiar mining excitement, and later the big boom caused by the general rush to the Klondike. This last boom began in December 1897, when white people began to flock in, and is still fresh in the minds of all.

The country was new (it is new yet) and the old town was ill prepared to accommodate the thousands who were landed by the steamers. Food was brought in by nearly all, and more or less shelter in the form of tents and bedding. There was little snow. On Christmas it was raining and was disagreeable. The first heavy snow fell on January 9th. The snow-fall all winter did not exceed 24 inches. There was six inches of snow-fall on January 23rd and 24th.

Several thousand people were camped in tents. Sleeping room in saloons, private houses, and on the church floor.



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Royal will keep fresh and sound, and is the only baking powder that can be used to advantage in Alaska and the Klondike.

commanded a premium. Women shared the hardships with the men in tents often only warmed by Yukon stoves. Food supplies were never short except in certain lines, and that only for a short time.

The Indians reaped a harvest in supplying fresh venison, the most toothsome of flesh.

Along in January, a great many persons, against all advice of old timers, began to move up the Stikine river, but only two succeeded in getting to Telegraph Creek. In February some two thousand persons were camped on Cottonwood island, in the mouth of the river, 8 miles north of Wrangell. Small detachments left daily up the river. The full history of their trials and hardships would make an extended story, and can be found mostly in the files of the JOURNAL, which kept faithful watch and ward over the news. In March, river travel became fine, and some three thousand people were on the trail, of which nearly all got through. The trail remained in most excellent condition till about the middle of April, when ice began to break up, and by April 28 the last floe was out.

Meanwhile the town grew rapidly. New houses went up almost in a night, and an army of carpenters made industrial music with the hammer and saw. In all the great rush, lack of accommodations, and absence of home luxuries, a more contented, cheerful, and happy lot of people were never congregated than were gathered together in Wrangell from the four corners of the world during that winter. But very few quarrels took place. Early in the winter a disreputable gang of gamblers and grafters, playing the notorious and ancient "shell game," together with a firm of "most favored" custom house brokers robbed a large number of Klondikers and tourists. The evil grew to such proportions that the good citizens took the matter in hand, and ordered the band of grafters out of town, and they stood not on the order of going, but took the first boat out. A few have since quietly returned, but it is not believed that they will insult public opinion.

A more orderly, quiet and peaceful city than this does not exist on the face of the earth, and the good citizens have resolved, as with a will of iron, that this splendid character shall be maintained at any cost.

GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION.

Wrangell enjoys a geographical location that gives her great advantages. Glancing at a map of the Pacific coast it will be seen that every few hundred miles is a large and growing city.

On the far south there is Los Angeles, that young giant among the orange groves, that feels the pulse of her hot young blood, as she is marching on to her glorious destiny with a momentum that cannot be stopped.

Beside the Golden Gate, San Francisco, the city of the argonauts of '49, lies tranquilly in her accumulated wealth and power.

Further north is Seattle, the queen city of the northwest, with her peculiar geographical location, and great resources.

Wrangell is at about the same interval north, with more great resources, and equally as good a geographical location as her sister city on the sound.

Dawson, the delight and wonder of the world, sitting by the great Yukon, surrounded by inexhaustable and enormous quantities of gold, such as the world has not known since the days when King Solomon gilded his temple from the mines of Ophir, is about the same interval further north, and will be last in the chain of great cities that extend from the Tropics to the frozen North.

Nature has ordained that here should be a great city. She has provided all the resources for its erection, and the necessary food, fuel, and furnishings

for its builders. Everything is at hand. For all untold ages these conditions have existed, until, in the divine decrees of that over-ruled Providence, which guides and directs the destinies of man, the magnetic gold fields of the far northwest were uncovered to the eyes of the world, and here create a commonwealth like unto those which their ancestors have built in southern lands.

There are equally as good reasons why other Klondikes might be found on the shores of Southeastern Alaska, and already there have been remarkable developments.

The Treadwell gold mine on Douglas Island is a wonder.

The petroleum springs along Cook's inlet give far more promise than did the old Seneca springs of New York.

Copper is found on the river bearing its name and, for that part, on many parts of the Alaska coast, notably Prince of Wales Island and Copper Mountain.

The fishing industry is one whose capacity is just beginning to be developed. The fish of Alaskan waters have long been recognized as possessing all the standard qualities for food. This industry will yet sustain thousands of people in Alaska.

The lumber industry bids fair to assume enormous proportions. As population increases, the demand for building material will increase, as it has increased.

Fine varieties of building granite and marble are found, and fortunes might be acquired in this line.

Small farming in Southeastern Alaska is already a success, and few dream how far it can be extended.

The position on the map makes Wrangell the gate to three great inland empires, Omenica, Cassiar and Klondike.

Its nearness to the great Stikine river makes it the door to these sections through which people and supplies must go in and through which the prospector with his golden treasures must come out.

As said before God never made a more wonderful country, a country with more natural resources, the grandest under the Northern sun—Southeastern Alaska, all of which, WRANGEL IS THE COMING METROPOLIS, as she is NOW THE LEADING CITY.

THE JOURNAL
IS THE ONLY
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The Latest Magazines and Newspapers, both Secular and Religious, kept on File.

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Y. M. C. A. Men and Christian Endeavors are Requested to call and Register names and addresses.

Circulating Library Books may be taken out any evening between 8 and 9 o'clock, upon making a deposit with the Librarian.

Reading Room Open Daily Until 10 O'Clock P. M.

W. B. COLP, WILLIAM KRUSE,
PRESIDENT, SECRETARY.

Remember the

Eureka Brewing Co.

432 FRONT STREET,

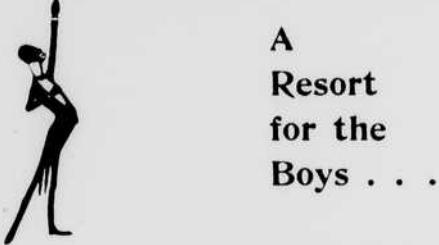
Fort Wrangell, Alaska.

A nice cozy place to spend an afternoon or evening.

Best Refreshments in the City.

Patronize the

Wrangell Billiard Parlor
LYNCH & JONES
PROPRIETORS



A
Resort
for the
Boys . . .

Cigars and Refreshments

Front Street,

Wrangell, Alaska

ESTABLISHED

1896,

Fort Wrangell Brewery

BRUNO GRIEF, Proprietor,

Wishes to announce to the public that he is

now prepared to furnish

THE

BEST QUALITY OF

BEER

Made in Alaska.

Pacific Coast Steamship Company.

SAN FRANCISCO, PUGET SOUND and ALASKA ROUTE

THE COMPANY'S ELEGANT STEAMERS LEAVE and ARRIVE AS FOLLOWS:

Lev San Fran cisco 10 a. m.	La Seattle 9 a. m. Tacoma a. m.	Lv Juneau	Due Dyea Skagway	Due Sitka Lv Sitka South bd	Lv Dyea Skagway	Lv Juneau	Due Seattle Tacoma 10 a. m.	Lv Seattle Tacoma 10 a. m.	Due San Fran cisco a. m.
Jan. 31	Feb. 4	Feb. 8	Feb. 10	Feb. 11	Feb. 12	Feb. 16	Feb. 18	Feb. 21	Feb. 26
Feb. 5	6	10	14	15	16	20	20	23	26
5	14	18	19	19	21	25	25	28	Mar. 3
15	19	24	25	25	26	27	27	30	Mar. 8
20	24	28	Mar. 1	Mar. 2	Mar. 3	Mar. 7	7	10	13
25	Mar. 1	Mar. 5	11	12	13	14	14	15	18
Mar. 2	6	15	19	16	17	18	18	20	23
7	11	20	21	22	21	23	22	25	28
12	16	26	31	27	28	29	29	30	Apr. 2
17	21	30	31	31	31	31	31	31	Apr. 7
22	26	30	31	31	31	31	31	31	Apr. 12
27	31	Apr. 4	Apr. 6	Apr. 6	Apr. 5	Apr. 7	7	11	14
31	Apr. 8	Apr. 10	Apr. 12	Apr.					

LOCAL NEWS.

Fresh Bread at Weigels Bakery. The Cottage City and Farallon, both with mail, were in early this week.

Home cooking at the Blue Front Restaurant. Try us!

Mr. Frost and a party of friends, have gone on a prospecting trip.

Special sale of Photos, at Carlyon's. If the people of Wrangel could live on fine weather, we would all be rich in a short time.

Best collection of Books in town at the Hunt Grocery Co., 326 Front street.

J. Babler, superintendent of the cannery, returned from below on the Cottage City.

F. J. Hunt is making some improvement in front of his place of business.

Weigel makes a specialty of fine pastry to order.

The soldiers were made happy this week by seeing the ghost walk.

The Journal is for sale at the P. O. news stand, S. Strouse's cigar store and the Hunt Grocery Co.

C. H. Sundmacher went to Juneau on the Cottage City on legal business.

Weigel makes the best Pies, Cakes, and bread in town.

F. W. Carlyon has introduced a novel raffle. The novelty lies in the fact that every ticket draws a prize.

Fresh Eastern and Sound oysters, and choicest creamery butter. Fresh meats etc at Hunt's Grocery.

Sam Gowen of the Red Light Club Rooms, has a fine lot of boats for sale cheap; also a stock of guns. Hunters and prospectors will find it to their interest to call and see him.

Dressmaking done—Mrs. Haught, Stikeen House.

Alaska is very much in need of new mining laws. One of the greatest drawbacks to the development of the country is the fact that so called prospectors are allowed to stake and hold mining claims without doing much if any development work.

All kinds of location blanks for sale at this office.

It is fortunate for Wrangel that three canneries are to be operated in this immediate vicinity this summer. There will be competition in buying which will run the price high and leave a good deal of money here.

Carlyon does all kinds of engraving. The steamer Golden Gate has left on her usual run with mail for points not on the regular Alaska mail route.

Our motto at the Blue Front: "Strive to please." Lunches prepared to suit. Open until midnight.

In order to furnish amusement for passengers and crews of steamers which tie up at Wrangel overnight, it is proposed by the Wrangel Mandolin Club to give a concert and dance on evenings when the boats are here.

Have you subscribed for the Journal? If not? why not.

Dick Lemon was engaged a few days ago in drumming up patronage for the Fort Wrangel Hospital.

F. E. Cagle has opened a tin shop in the Bloomhardt Block, 214 Front St and is prepared to do all kinds of work at short notice.

Geo. Clark is prospecting for halibut off the C. P. R. wharf. George is a tenacious fellow and with true grit will stick to it until his efforts are rewarded.

For a first class shave, hair cut or shampoo, patronise the O. K. Tonsorial parlors. Finest brands of Cigars & Tobaccos.

Mrs. Hunt is in receipt of a letter from Miss Mollie E. Snider formally of Wrangel. Miss Snider is in New York City in the employ of the Account, Audit & Assurance Co. Her many friends here will be glad to hear that she is well and has not forgotten Wrangel.

All kinds of fresh and salt meats and fish kept by the Hunt Grocery Co. Try them.

The Steamer Nixon met with an accident in the Narrows a few days ago. The accident consisted in her loosing her wheel. Fortunately she escaped without serious damage.

Fine lot of Nuggets at Carlyon's.

The Garnet is loading with lumber at the sawmill for Juneau.

Hunt Grocery Co. General market place for Wrangel.

The new cannery on the Mainland near the mouth of the river is progressing rapidly. The owners will be ready for the seasons run of fish.

O. H. Adsit, who has been spending a few days in town, left for home on the Cottage City.

Gospel meeting every Sunday night at 436 Front St. at 7:30 p. m. Bible class every Sunday morning at 11 o'clock, in the same place. All are cordially invited to attend.

For Curios, try Carlyon!

Patronize the Postoffice News stand when you want stationary, candy, cigars and tobacco. All the leading papers and magazines always on hand.

W. C. Kaufman, chief engineer of the Annie Nixon, was registered at the Fort Wrangel hotel this week.

If you cannot get what you want elsewhere, try the Hunt Grocery Co.

W. H. Gilmore, who has been working on a prospect near Ketchikan, is spending a few days in town. Mr. Gilmore reports many fine prospects near Ketchikan, and prophesies for that district a wonderful future.

WANTED.—Sewing to do. Mrs. Roundtree, Opp. Y. M. C. A. Hall.

The Dirigo's Damages.

The extent of the injuries sustained by the steamer Dirigo, when she grounded in the narrows, have just recently become known. It will cost \$25,000 to \$30,000 to repair her, or one-third of her total value. The steamer was built last year at a total cost of \$80,000, and \$12,000 was subsequently spent in fitting her up for the Alaska trade.

When she was placed in the dry dock and stripped it was found that her keel was completely gone, as well as a large portion of her garboards or bottom planking. The engine and boilers were out of position and forced over to the port side, their foundations being broken and twisted.

Considerable other damage was done in the engine room, including the cracking of her low-pressure cylinder and columns. The electric plant was badly injured by salt water, and the dynamo must be rewound.

Remember.

Wrangel Studio is the place to get Alaska views. A fine selection of Wrangel during the great boom of 1898. Remember I will desert Wrangel soon and if there is any one that has a bill to present I will be pleased to settle it.

O. D. Goetze.

Yukon River Boats Doomed.

T. S. Mahoney has just arrived from the steamer Yukoner, which lies in a slough at Russian Mission, near the mouth of the Yukon, and he brings news that when the ice breaks up at least eleven of the Yukon fleet will with doubt be destroyed.

The following is a list of the vessels that will probably be lost and can only be saved by a miracle: Herman, A. E. Co., San Francisco; Dawson City, San Francisco; Gov. Stoneman, Portland; May D., Trenton; Cheeto, San Francisco; Seattle No. 1, Seattle Yukon Co.; City of Chicago, Chicago; Robert Kerr, N. A. T. & T. Co., Seattle; Tacoma, E. L. Co., Seattle; and Arnold, A. E. Co., San Francisco.

This is a list of eleven steamers between Russian Mission and Dawson. Nearly all the boats are in the middle of the stream and will go down the river with the ice, to be piled up on the sand-bars and wrecked.

A Reliable Pilot.

Any one wishing to engage the services of a reliable guide and pilot who is familiar with the entire coast of South eastern Alaska, can do so by calling at this office, or at Reid & Sylvester's store. A great many mining experts and others will come to Alaska this summer with a desire to visit some particular locality along the coast. All such persons will find it to their best interests to obtain the services of a perfectly reliable pilot, who, from long experience is acquainted with the Alaska coast and tide currents. This opportunity affords such persons a chance to visit in safety any locality they desire.

Coal Lands Not Open.

The following letters are self explanatory:

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.
General Land Office, Washington, D. C. February 28 1899.
Register and Receiver. Sitka, Alaska.

Sirs: I am in receipt of your letter of January 31 1899, in which you state that there was offered for filing in your office three dietary statements for coal lands situated on Admiralty Island, near Point Gardner and Newell. I note that you refused the filings for the reason that there was no law under which such lands could be purchased in Alaska; that at the request of the attorney for the parties you gave your personal receipt and held the papers pending instructions from this office.

You ask whether you are warranted in receiving such papers even unofficially.

It reply I have to advise you that the provisions of the coal land law have not been extended to the district of Alaska.

There is therefore no authority under said law for receiving filings for coal lands in said district. You will return the papers.

Very respectfully,
F. W. Mondell,
Asst. Commissioner.

UNITED STATES LAND OFFICE,
Sitka, Alaska. April 6, 1899.

U. S. Commissioner,
Wrangel, Alaska.

Sirs: In reply to your inquiry to the receiver who is ill I enclose a copy of a department letter instructing us to refuse all filings on coal lands as there is no law in force in Alaska under which title may be obtained to such lands.

Respectfully,
JOHN W. DUDLEY.

Register.

The Ladies' Aid Society.

The Ladies Aid will meet at the home of Mrs. Thwing Thursday afternoon April 27th., to sew. A good attendance is desired as there is important business to attend to.

Mrs. Hattie Garret. Sec.

Summons.

In the District Court of the United States for the District of Alaska.

Lena Thacker, No. 861.
Plaintiff. (SUMMONS.)

D. L. Thacker.
Defendant.

The President of the United States of America.

To D. L. Thacker. The above named Defendant, GREETING:

You are hereby commanded to be and appear in the above entitled Court, holden at Sitka in said District, and answer the complaint filed against you in the above entitled action within twenty days from the date of service of this summons upon you, and if you fail so to appear and answer, for want thereof the plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in the complaint filed. The said action is brought to set aside a dissolution of the said plaintiff and said defendant by a decree of this Court, on the ground of a wilful desertion and non-support on the part of the said defendant for a period of more than (3) three years, as will more fully appear by the complaint filed herein.

And this is to command you, the Marshall of said District, or your Deputy, to make due service and return of this summons. Hereof fail not.

WITNESS the Honorable CHARLES S. JOHNSON, Judge of said District Court and the Seal of the said Court affixed at

Sitka in said District this 6th

sixth day of April, A. D. 1899.

ALBERT D. ELLIOT, Clerk.

CHARLES E. INGERSOL,
Attorney for plaintiff.

Date of first publication, April 15th, 1899.

JOHNSON, Seal.

ALBERT D. ELLIOT, Clerk.

CHARLES E. INGERSOL,
Attorney for plaintiff.

Front Street, ALASKA

227 Front Street.

ALASKA

Front Street, ALASKA

227 Front Street.

ALASKA